



SAFE Team information for children, young people and families.

What is the SAFE Team?

In January 2024, Herefordshire Council's SAFE Team launched the GETSAFE programme to protect children and young people across the county. Our SAFE Team is here for children and young people to ensure that you feel safe and supported outside of your family home and when you are online. We work with children and young people who are at risk of harm and we can support you if you go missing from home and your family are unaware of where you are.

What does the SAFE Team offer?

- Safe worker support for children, young people, parent and carers to help you to understand the risks outside of the family home and online.
- GETsafe risk assessments from fully qualified professionals who work in education, health, social care and the police, following consent from your parents.
- We speak to trained professionals in meetings and together we make decisions on the level of support needed to keep you safe from harm.

Risks that our SAFE Team can support you with:

- Gangs
- Sexual Exploitation
- Trafficking
- Modern Day Slavery
- Absent or Missing
- Forced Marriage
- Criminal Exploitation
- Grooming
- Female Genital Mutilation
- County Lines
- Radicalisation
- Honour Based Violence



Safety Planning:

If you are allocated a safe worker, social worker or a family support worker, they will help you and your family make a safety plan to keep you safe from harm.

Emerging Risk

External services may be offered such as Catch22.

Safe Worker may be offered if you are working within Early Help or have a social worker.

Moderate Risk

Safe worker will be offered for preventative work.

MACE meetings will be started on a 6 week basis with you, family and professionals invited.

Significant Risk

Safe worker will be offered for preventative work.

MACE meetings will be started on a 4 week basis with you, family and professionals invited.

MACE - Multi Agency Child Exploitation meetings:

This is your meeting. It involves any professional working with you, such as health, education, social worker/ family support worker, and also a child exploitation police officer who will share information and support you and your family with disrupting any risks from individuals identified in the meeting.

How often are MACE meetings?

Emerging - No MACE meeting is needed. **Moderate** - Every 6 weeks. **Significant** - Every 4 weeks.

This can be virtual on Teams or in person.



What happens if I go missing from home?

The SAFE Team offer you a return home interview once you have been found within 72 hours. If you are over 11 years old, we do not need consent from your parent or carer. This gives you the opportunity to talk to someone independent outside of your home about the reasons why you were reported missing. The safe worker will then call your parent or carer for further information about your missing episode and speak to them about any worries they may have about your safety. This information will then be shared with any professional working with you and your parent and carer (depending on what has been discussed) and you will be offered support to keep you safe.



How to keep yourself safe
• plan your night
• know how you're getting home - book a taxi or ask a friend or family member

Online and Phone Safety

We are here to support you to stay safe online and outside your home and we will encourage you to not share images of yourself or your private body parts and to understand your body parts are private to you. Always speak to an adult that you consider safe, such as your parent or teacher if someone has asked you to send a photo of yourself or asked to see or touch your body.

Useful contacts and websites:

Hollie Guard App
www.hollieguard.com

Catch 22
www.catch-22.org.uk

Internet Matters
www.internetmatters.org

NPSCC
www.nspcc.org.uk

Herefordshire Council
www.herefordshire.gov.uk/earlyhelp

Team email: exploitationteam@herefordshire.gov.uk

If you are in immediate danger please call 999.

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Emerging risk
Means I need some
Support.

